

**County of San Diego
Valle De Oro Community Planning Group
P.O. Box 936
La Mesa, CA 91944-0936**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: September 6, 2011

LOCATION: Otay Water District Headquarters
Training Room, Lower Terrace
2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd.
Spring Valley, California

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 PM Jack L. Phillips, presiding Chair

Members present: Brownlee, Feathers, Fitchett, Henderson, Hyatt, Manning, Myers, Phillips, Schuppert

Absent: Forthun, Millar, Mitrovich, Reith, Wollitz

2. FINALIZE AGENDA: As shown

3. OPEN FORUM: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of August 2, 2011 **VOTE: 9-0-0 to approve.**

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Selection of new member to fill Seat #5 vacancy (Ms. Gloria Ripperger resigned).

Two candidates submitted applications for the open seat. Geoffrey (Jeff) Marsh was not present at the meeting. Olena (Eileen) Losyk-Tierney was present and spoke about her background. Group members asked her some questions. Ballots were collected and the vote was unanimous (9-0) in favor of appointing Eileen Tierney.

6. LAND USE

- a. P08-021W1: Modification of an AT&T cell site (change antennas mounted on water tank and add small enclosure for additional equipment) located on Otay water tank facility above the Steele Canyon High School. The site address is 12118 Campo Rd.

The project was presented by HYATT. Michelle Alves and Jim were present to explain the project and answer questions. Michelle described the upgrade of 6 of the 11 existing antennas as well as the addition of an expansion pad with a CMU wall. She said there were no substantial changes from originally submitted plans. She stated that they were replacing the existing antennas with those of the same size and the proposed block wall would be the same as the existing. PHILLIPS stated that final plans must indicate the CMU slump block walls, tan in color. Cabinets are matching tan color. She said that part of the AT&T network is needed for the community's benefit especially for emergency systems like fire and police. 5 other carriers are up there. HYATT asked what RRUs are and Jim responded that RRU stands for remote radio unit. HYATT asked why they were being replaced. Jim responded that it is a LTD upgrade of equipment to maintain existing service and to increase the quality of service. HYATT asked if they are using portable generators for

emergency backup. Jim said they have battery back-up for up to 8 hours. For outages any longer than that they would bring in a portable generator.

HYATT moves to approve project contingent on the tan CMU slump block wall designation to be added to plans and the color of cabinets to match existing water tanks. (Henderson seconds). **VOTE: 9-0-0 to approve.**

b. Consideration of implementing an all-way stop at Canta Lomas, Libertore, and Pence Drive and of establishing new speed limits on Canta Lomas and Pence.

BROWNLEE described the project. Dr. Hogan, resident of 887 Libertore Lane, said this area is very dangerous. Down the street there was similar situation without stop sign. A fire captain named Libertore died at that intersection. Traffic goes thru an intersection with a 90 degree turn which then goes up a hill. Traffic comes down the hill and thru the same turn usually at high speeds. Cars are turning onto Libertore without stopping and they can't see up Pence Drive. The residents want a 4 way stop there. Mark Dulaney recently moved there and described his experience with vehicles speeding around the corner. His wife has had problems making a left turn onto Libertore with vehicles behind her honking and trying to speed past her. Mike Steen related that his 13 year old daughter walks around the blind corner and he has concerns for her safety.

BROWNLEE visited the site. Motorists do not stop when they come down the hill very fast and continue to speed around the corner. She watched traffic there. The left turn is very hard to see. Phillips comments that a new speed limit would not help. BROWNLEE **moves** to recommend that the County install an all-way stop at Canta Lomas and Pence along with the placement of "stop ahead" pavement markings and signs at maximum distances before the stop signs as well as improving the indication of the existing 25 mph speed limit coming downhill on Pence. (Fitchett seconds). **VOTE: 9-0-0 to approve.**

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. POD09-012: Amendment to the County Wireless Telecommunication Facilities Ordinance.

PHILLIPS discussed the amendment in depth as follows:

Amendment to: Wireless Telecommunication Facilities Ordinance Comments of September 5, 2011

6982 Purpose: The stated purpose will no longer be valid because the proposed changes will increase, not minimize, the intrusion of these facilities into residential areas.

6983 Definitions:

Camouflaged Facility – Change will allow faux windmills, water tanks, light poles, or utility poles to be considered camouflaged facilities.

Limited Visibility Facility – This new category allows 3 antennas (or more if an additional provider) on a streetlight or pole in any public right-of-way (6 cu. ft.

max. equipment cabinet.) In conjunction with Table A, allows large-scale invasion of our residential areas with only a site plan.

Low Visibility Facility – Adds streetlight poles and painted-to-match antennas mounted on poles. Also allows building-mounted panel antennas & screened equipment cabinet (up to 50 cu. ft.)

TABLE A:

1. Does not prohibit any type of cell site in or adjacent to residential.
2. Limited visibility should be M in residential
3. All zones and facility types except Non-Visible should require M if the facility will be in or adjacent to a rural/residential zone.

General Regulations:

C.1 Changed to exempt water tank sites; monopole will not provide coverage if placed next to tank; may result in non-camouflaged monopole antennas directly adjacent to nearby residences.

C.2 Change eliminates requirement for landscaping of equipment enclosures.

C.3 Change exempts water district sites in residential zones from any limitation on number of facilities. May result in many towers adjacent to residential structures

C.4 By eliminating the 50' residential lot line setback requirement, the change allows any type of facility to be located in our residential public street right-of-ways – placing them literally in our front yards without our permission. However, property owners cannot contract to have one placed in their own front yard setback! It also exempts water district utility sites from any setback requirements.

Design Regulations:

b. Prefixing with “To the maximum extent practicable” makes the design requirements that follow non-mandatory or essentially unenforceable.

F. Deletion eliminates requirement to “minimize the visual impact to the greatest extent feasible ---.”

PHILLIPS **moves** to create a letter based on his comments to define the issues and to take this whole issue directly to Supervisor Diane Jacobs since she was one of the leaders who got the ordinance approved prohibiting the placement of these sites in people’s front yards. (Myers seconds). Discussion ensued. PHILLIPS stated that a company called 4G had applied to install antenna sites along Grandview, Fuerte Drive, etc. He believes this revised ordinance will open the door for them to be approved simply based on a site plan. HYATT believes we need to defend our neighborhoods. These companies are hard to fight and they are taking the teeth out of the existing ordinance. **VOTE: 9-0-0** to approve motion.

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The County recertified 35 mph speed limit on Conrad Drive and Via Rancho San Diego.

We will review the Park Lands Dedication Ordinance (PLDO) Project Priority List at our next meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT 8:16 PM

Submitted by: Jösan Feathers